LAKEHEAD DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Jim McCuaig Education Centre

2024 FEB 14 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Alina Cameron, Vice Chair

Michelle Blackburn

Scott McBean (virtual)

Trustee Trudy Tuchenhagen
Trustee Leah Vanderwey
Wendy Carroll (virtual)

Trustee Patricia Johansen (virtual) Morgann DeFranceschi, Student Trustee

OTHERS PRESENT:

Maggie Fredrickson Christine Jones Michelle Probizanski Ryan McDonnell

ABSENT WITH REGRET:

Liz Tod Sarah Niles

Mike Otway Suzanne Posthumus, Chair

Miranda Myers

1. Call to Order

Alina Cameron, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Welcome and Introductions

Alina Cameron, Vice Chair, welcomed the following guest:

Ryan McDonnell, Principal.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Trustee Vanderwey Sec

Seconded by Michelle Blackburn

"THAT the agenda for the February 14, 2024, SEAC meeting be approved."

CARRIED

4. <u>Declarations of Conflict of Interest</u>

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

5. Presentations

Ryan McDonnell, Principal, presented Lakehead District School Board's Connections Program. This program encourages learning skills leading to student success. Students in this program will enjoy individual attention and assistance with learning barriers. All members' questions were addressed.

6. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Scott McBean

Seconded by Wendy Carroll

"THAT the minutes of the January 17, 2024, SEAC meeting be approved."

CARRIED

7. <u>Business Arising from the Minutes</u>

- 7.1 Alina Cameron, Vice Chair, reminded the committee that the Equity and Inclusive Education Advisory Committee, is looking for a SEAC member to represent.
- 7.2 Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, presented the Special Education Advisory Committee Award criteria for their input. All members' questions were addressed.

8. Correspondence

Alina Cameron, Vice Chair, reviewed the following correspondence sent to all SEAC members:

- Abiinojiishiik amino yawook EarlyON Calendar February 2024, Dilico;
- Letter from K. MacKenzie, Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington CDSB;
- Teen Cessation, Anishnawbe Mushkiki; and
- Neurodiversity Week, Dilico.

9. New Business

- 8.1 Maggie Fredrickson, Special Education Principal, provided the following special education update:
 - Student Support Professionals received training on the elementary PA Day of January 26, 2024, where Children's Aid Society presented on Trauma on the Brain in Children;
 - school visits continue, ensuring schools are supporting the Workplace Violence protocols and reviewing risk assessments with Health and Safety Officer, Kyle Ulvang; and
 - our Joint Protocol Student Achievement Lead, Vanessa Brescacin, continues to visit schools working with students in care and/or kinship.
- 8.2 Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, asked members for ideas on speakers for the upcoming 2023-2024 SEAC Event. Maggie Fredrickson, Special Education Principal, is looking into a presentation from Shelly Moore and also suggested the idea of having a second event on Autism. Will follow-up at the next meeting.
- 8.3 Alina Cameron, Vice Chair, asked members to share any advocacy, none provided in February 2024.

9. <u>Information/Inquiries & Association Reports</u>

Alina Cameron, Vice Chair, shared the following Ontario Autism Coalition update:

- AGM was held in January and was re-elected as the 2024 President of the Autism Coalition;
- two new Northwestern Ontario members joined the board; and
- a conference was held in January 2024, at Queens Park addressing lack of funding for students with special education.

10. SEAC Budget Update

Michelle Probizanski, Superintendent of Education, reported the SEAC budget is \$12,585.

11. Board Update

Deferred to March meeting.

12. <u>Adjournment</u>

Moved by Trustee Trudy Tuchenhagen Seconded by Trustee Leah Vanderwey

"THAT we do now adjourn at 6:48 p.m."

CARRIED